The New York State Academy of Family Physicians represents over 6,000 board-certified physicians, residents and students in family medicine throughout New York

2018 Priorities

Access to Healthcare

Support: - Universal healthcare coverage through a single payer health system  
- Universal state purchase and distribution of all vaccinations and support for minors’ ability to consent to receive the HPV vaccine  
- Legislation to provide for medical aid in dying

Advocate: - For mandatory insurance coverage without cost sharing for nutritional products to treat inborn errors of metabolism  
- For practicing and retired physicians to volunteer to care for the uninsured and underserved through immunity from liability  
- For paid sick leave for employees

Oppose: - Efforts to remove “prescriber prevails” under the Medicaid program

Women’s/Reproductive Health

Support: - The Reproductive Health Act and initiatives to protect physicians’ medical judgment with reproductive health care and protect physicians acting in good faith from criminal charges  
- Expansion of existing law to allow for use of patient delivered partner therapy (PDPT) for all Sexually Transmitted Diseases recommended by the CDC  
- Comprehensive sexual education legislation  
- Efforts to ensure comprehensive coverage for contraceptives and availability of oral contraception without a prescription  
- Establishment of lactation accommodations in public transportation facilities  
- Use of standards created by the National Commission on Correctional Healthcare and US Preventative Services Task Force for healthcare provided to women who are incarcerated

Oppose: - Health insurer prior approvals for contraceptive devices which restrict or delay their use and result in unintended pregnancies  
- Oppose mandatory drug testing of pregnant women

Public Health & Safety

Support: - Required reporting of adult vaccine doses to State Immunization Registry (NYSIIS)  
- That only medical exemptions be permitted for ACIP-recommended childhood vaccines  
- Expansion of ISTOP law to include methadone clinics and Veterans Affairs facilities  
- Increase in state funding for New York’s Tobacco Control Program and expansion of program to include electronic cigarettes; Support efforts to regulate electronic cigarettes like tobacco, to raise tobacco purchase age to 21 and to ban sale of tobacco in pharmacies  
- Increase in state funding for New York’s obesity prevention program; support tax on sugar sweetened beverages and advocate for ban on sale of energy drinks to children  
- Measures to provide more walk-able/ bike-able communities and decrease in NYC speed limit
- Inclusion of gender expression and gender identity protections in NY’s anti-discrimination laws
- That incarcerated persons have access to their prescribed medications
- For policies to limit use of fossil fuels and the production of environmental pollutants
- For protection of physicians against assaults (as automatic felonies), regardless of practice setting

Oppose: - Use of “Reparative” or “Conversion Therapy

**Support:**
- Encourage Growth of Family Practice in New York State
- Efforts to ensure that every medical school in the State has a family medicine department
- Making the Doctors Across NY program permanent and advocating for increased funding to provide loan forgiveness/other grants to establish medical practices in physician shortage areas
- Income tax credits for physicians who practice in specialty shortage areas or serve as preceptors, including advocating that physicians should be allowed to participate in START-UP NY
- State funding for Area Health Education Centers (AHEC)
- Continued funding for Graduate Medical Education for primary care residency programs and encourage state medical schools to include family medicine and primary care residency slots

Advocate: - For a rotation in family medicine as a physician licensure requirement

**Support:**
- Peer Review/ Tort Reform
  - Legislation to prohibit the disclosure and discovery of the testimony of a party to a health care quality assurance or peer review proceeding
  - Comprehensive Medical Liability Reform measures and continued state funding for the Excess Malpractice program. Pursue binding arbitration with patients in lieu of litigation and a loser pays tort reform measure

Oppose: - Legislation to eliminate the 2 ½ year statute of limitations in medical liability cases

**Support:**
- Equitable Payment
  - Legislation to allow health care providers to collectively negotiate
  - Comprehensive prior authorization reform measures including bill to require clinical peer reviewers to be licensed/registered/certified in New York
  - Disclosure of health insurer criteria for establishing physician fees and advocate for adequate compensation for primary care providers
  - Legislation to limit and provide protections related to insurance plan audits of physician practices and the use of extrapolation in determining recoveries
  - Implementation of pay-for-performance programs with physician input and reimbursement of physicians for required data mining, and the creation of a CPT code specific for the task of advocating for patients access to imaging, medications or other lab studies

Advocate: - For state funding to provide Medicaid-Medicare rate parity for primary care

**Support:**
- Other Priorities
  - A pilot program allowing medically supervised safe injection facilities as a harm reduction strategy
  - License reciprocity for fleeting instances of practicing medicine
  - Multiple pathways to enhanced reimbursement as Medical Homes in the State beyond NCQA

Advocate: - That every school have a school nurse for care of students

Oppose: - Any legislation to set criterion or requirements for Continuing Education/training for licensure or re-registration of physicians
- Oppose licensing of naturopaths as naturopathic doctors